

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
 - a mainframe;
 - a photoreceptor;
 - an exposing unit that exposes a surface of the photoreceptor to form an electrostatic latent image;
 - a developing unit that develops the electrostatic latent image by supplying a charged developer on the surface of the photoreceptor having the electrostatic latent image formed thereon;
 - a cover that is capable of being opened and is structured to allow the photoreceptor to be loaded in and unloaded from the mainframe; and
 - an evacuatingevacuation unit mechanism that is linked to the cover and evacuates the developing unit from a moving path of the photoreceptor by moving the developing unit along a direction away from the photoreceptor ~~during loading and unloading of the photoreceptor~~when the cover is opened,
 - wherein the photoreceptor is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe separately from the developing unit.
2. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
 - a photoreceptor cartridge that retains the photoreceptor and is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe while being separated from the developing unit.
3. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2,

wherein the photoreceptor includes a plurality of photoreceptors for a plurality of colors; and

the photoreceptor cartridge integrally retains the plurality of photoreceptors.

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the photoreceptor cartridge is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by moving the photoreceptor along a direction that is exactly parallel to or substantially parallel to a conveying direction of a transfer medium, the transfer medium being a medium onto which the charged developer is transferred from the photoreceptor.

5. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the photoreceptor cartridge includes a charger that uniformly charges the surface of the photoreceptor prior to formation of the electrostatic latent image.

6. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the mainframe includes a guide part that guides movement of the photoreceptor cartridge at the time of loading and unloading; and

the photoreceptor cartridge includes a guided part guided by the guide part.

7. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the developing unit is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by moving the developing unit along a direction that crosses a conveying direction of a transfer medium and is substantially perpendicular to or exactly perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the photoreceptor, the transfer medium being a medium onto which the developer is transferred from the photoreceptor

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the plurality of photoreceptors includes a photoreceptor corresponding to black color and being exchangeable separately from the other photoreceptors.

10. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developing unit is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by moving the developing unit along a direction different from the direction along which the photoreceptor is moved to be loaded and unloaded.

11. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the developing unit is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by moving the developing unit along a direction that is substantially opposite or exactly opposite to the direction in which the photoreceptor is moved to be loaded and unloaded.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 12~~claim 1,

wherein the photoreceptor faces the transfer unit at a transferring position; the exposing unit is disposed on a side of the photoreceptor opposite to the transferring position; and

the exposing unit overlaps with the photoreceptor in a substantially horizontal or an exactly horizontal direction.

14. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the exposing unit includes a laser scanner.

15. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

the laser scanner includes a plurality of laser scanners each having a casing; the developing units and the laser scanners are arranged alternately with each other in a substantially vertical or an exactly vertical direction; and

the developing units are loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe along surfaces of the casings of the laser scanners.

16. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 15,
wherein the mainframe includes a guide member that guides the developing
unit being loaded therein and unloaded therefrom; and
the developing unit includes an engaging part that engages with the guide
member.

17. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 13,
wherein the exposing unit includes an LED array.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in
~~claim 12~~claim 1,
wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member that carries
a developer; and
the developer remaining on the photoreceptor after the transfer unit
transferring the developer image onto the transfer medium is recovered by the developer
carrying member.

20. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the developing unit and the photoreceptor are independently loadable
in and unloadable from the mainframe.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in
~~claim 24~~claim 1,
wherein the exposing unit includes an LED array.

26. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in
~~claim 23~~claim 1,

wherein the developing unit includes a plurality of developer carrying members;

the photoreceptor includes a plurality of photoreceptors; and

the developer carrying members and the photoreceptors are alternately arranged in a conveying direction of the transfer medium.

27. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 23~~claim 1,

wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member;

the photoreceptor includes a photoreceptor drum;

the photoreceptor drum opposes to the developer carrying member at a developing position;

the photoreceptor drum opposes to the transfer medium at a transfer position;

and

a line passing through a rotation center of the photoreceptor drum and the developing position is substantially perpendicular to a line passing through the rotation center of the photoreceptor drum and the transferring position.

28. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 20,

wherein the developing unit includes a first grab handle; and

the photoreceptor is accommodated in a photoreceptor unit having a second grab handle.

29. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 28,

wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member;

the first grab handle is provided on the developing unit at both ends in an axial direction of the developer carrying member; and

the second grab handle is provided on the photoreceptor unit at both ends in an axial direction of the photoreceptor.

30. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 21~~claim 1,

wherein the photoreceptor is accommodated in a photoreceptor unit loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe;

the mainframe includes a guide part that guides the photoreceptor unit being loaded therein and unloaded therefrom;

the photoreceptor includes an engaging part that engages with the guide part; and

the guide part includes a positioning member that positions the photoreceptor unit at a deepest part thereof.

31. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member; and the mainframe includes an urging part that urges the photoreceptor unit positioned by the positioning member to the developer carrying member.

32. (Original) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member that carries a developer; and

the developer remaining on the photoreceptor after the transfer unit transferring the developer image onto the transfer medium is recovered by the developer carrying member.

33. - 39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the photoreceptor is configured to be unloadable by moving the photoreceptor along a direction that is substantially perpendicular or exactly perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the photoreceptor with the longitudinal direction being a direction along a rotational axis of the photoreceptor, and

the developing unit is configured to be unloadable by moving the developing unit along a direction that is substantially perpendicular or exactly perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the developing unit.

41. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the developing unit and the photoreceptor are in contact with each other when developing the electrostatic latent image formed on the photoreceptor.

42. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

- a mainframe;
- a photoreceptor;
- an exposing unit that exposes a surface of the photoreceptor to form an electrostatic latent image;
- a developing unit that develops the electrostatic latent image by supplying a charged developer on the surface of the photoreceptor having the electrostatic latent image formed thereon;
- a cover that is capable of being opened and is structured to allow the photoreceptor to be loaded in and unloaded from the mainframe; and
- an evacuation mechanism that is linked to the cover and evacuates the developing unit from a moving path of the photoreceptor by moving the developing unit along a direction away from the photoreceptor when the cover is opened;

wherein:

the photoreceptor is configured to be unloadable from the mainframe by moving the photoreceptor along a direction that is substantially perpendicular or exactly perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the photoreceptor with the longitudinal direction being a direction along a rotational axis of the photoreceptor,

the developing unit is configured to be unloadable from the mainframe by moving the developing unit along a direction that is substantially perpendicular or exactly perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the developing unit,

the photoreceptor and the developing unit are loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe independently of each other,

a belt that contacts with the photoreceptor is provided in the mainframe, and during unloading, the photoreceptor is moved from the mainframe along a direction that is towards the belt provided in the mainframe.

43. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 42, further comprising:

a photoreceptor cartridge that retains the photoreceptor and is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe while being separated from the developing unit.

44. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 43, wherein the photoreceptor includes a plurality of photoreceptors for a plurality of colors; and

the photoreceptor cartridge integrally retains the plurality of photoreceptors.

45. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 43, wherein the photoreceptor cartridge includes a charger that uniformly charges the surface of the photoreceptor prior to formation of the electrostatic latent image.

46. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 43,

wherein the mainframe includes a guide part that guides movement of the photoreceptor cartridge at the time of loading and unloading; and

the photoreceptor cartridge includes a guided part guided by the guide part.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 44, wherein the plurality of photoreceptors includes a photoreceptor corresponding to black color and being exchangeable separately from the other photoreceptors.

49. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 42, wherein the developing unit is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by being moved along a direction different from the direction in which the photoreceptor is moved during loading and unloading.

50. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 49, wherein the developing unit is loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe by moving the developing unit along a direction substantially opposite or exactly opposite to the direction along which the photoreceptor is moved to be loaded and unloaded.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 51~~claim 42,

wherein the photoreceptor faces the transfer unit at a transferring position; the exposing unit is disposed on a side of the photoreceptor opposite to the transferring position; and

the exposing unit overlaps with the photoreceptor in a substantially horizontal or an exactly horizontal direction.

53. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 52, wherein the exposing unit includes a laser scanner.

54. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 53, wherein the developing unit includes a plurality of developing units; the laser scanner includes a plurality of laser scanners each having a casing; the developing units and the laser scanners are arranged alternately with each other in a substantially vertical direction; and the developing units are loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe along surfaces of the casings of the laser scanners.

55. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 54, wherein the mainframe includes a guide member that guides the developing unit being loaded therein and unloaded therefrom; and the developing unit includes an engaging part that engages with the guide member.

56. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 52, wherein the exposing unit includes an LED array.

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 51~~claim 42, wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member that carries a developer; and the developer remaining on the photoreceptor after the transfer unit transferring the developer image onto the transfer medium is recovered by the developer carrying member.

59-62. (Cancelled)

63. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 62~~claim 42,

wherein the exposing unit includes an LED array.

64. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 61~~claim 42,

wherein the developing unit includes a plurality of developer carrying members;

the photoreceptor includes a plurality of photoreceptors; and

the developer carrying members and the photoreceptors are alternately arranged in a conveying direction of the transfer medium.

65. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 61~~claim 42,

wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member;

the photoreceptor includes a photoreceptor drum;

the photoreceptor drum opposes to the developer carrying member at a developing position;

the photoreceptor drum opposes to the transfer medium at a transfer position;
and

a line passing through a rotation center of the photoreceptor drum and the developing position is substantially perpendicular to a line passing through the rotation center of the photoreceptor drum and the transferring position.

66. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 42,
wherein the developing unit includes a first grab handle; and
the photoreceptor is accommodated in a photoreceptor unit having a second grab handle.

67. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 66,
wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member;

the first grab handle is provided on the developing unit at both ends in an axial direction of the developer carrying member; and

the second grab handle is provided on the photoreceptor unit at both ends in an axial direction of the photoreceptor.

68. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 59~~claim 42,

wherein the photoreceptor is accommodated in a photoreceptor unit loadable in and unloadable from the mainframe;

the mainframe includes a guide part that guides the photoreceptor unit being loaded therein and unloaded therefrom;

the photoreceptor includes an engaging part that engages with the guide part; and

the guide part includes a positioning member that positions the photoreceptor unit at a deepest part thereof.

69. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 68, wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member; and the mainframe includes an urging part that urges the photoreceptor unit positioned by the positioning member to the developer carrying member.

70. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 42, wherein the developing unit includes a developer carrying member that carries a developer; and

the developer remaining on the photoreceptor after the transfer unit transferring the developer image onto the transfer medium is recovered by the developer carrying member.

71. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the belt is an intermediate belt.

72. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the belt is a transfer belt.